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By Bob Kellogg

A growing number of groups nationwide are expressing their opposition to high-stakes testing being adopted by states in efforts to improve education.

Neal McCluskey of the [Cato Institute](#) refers to this opposition as "testing fatigue." He says standardized testing has significantly increased in the past decade since No Child Left Behind was launched, with little to show for it.

"And so definitely there is something going on -- and it's to be expected, given really a decade of super-emphasis on standardized testing," he offers.

The Obama administration is pushing hard for the Common Core Standards to be used in testing if NCLB is reauthorized. But the associate director of Cato's Center for Educational Freedom says it is not certain what Mitt Romney would do if he wins next November.

"It's very hard to tell whether Mitt Romney supports national standards or not," notes McCluskey. "He's spoken well of No Child Left Behind; he seems to like standards and accountability -- but he has said he wouldn't support federal control of the curriculum and things like that."

One group opposing high-stakes testing -- the [Time Out From Testing](#) coalition in New York, launched just last month -- already has 300 groups and 8,000 individuals who have signed their petition protesting excessive standardized testing